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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/746,774 | 12/21/2000 | Harry J. M. Reijnders | D/A0637 | 1410 |

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EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2003

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/746,774 | REIJNDERS, HARRY J. M. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Rick K. Chang | 3729 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5,7-9,11 and 14-25 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 21-23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-5,7-9,11,14-20,24 and 25 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on 18 March 2003 is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . 6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/18/03 has been entered.

Election/Restrictions

2. Newly submitted claims 21-23 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Species II and Species B and C, respectively.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 21-23 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Drawings

3. The proposed drawing correction filed on 3/18/03 has been disapproved because it is not in the form of a pen-and-ink sketch showing changes in red ink or with the changes otherwise highlighted. See MPEP § 608.02(v).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 11, 14-16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al (US 5,419,038) in view of Latasiewicz (US 4,316,235).

Wang discloses common circuit board (14, 24-1, 26-1 and 30) with a plurality of circuit patterns of a first substrate and a second substrate (Fig. 7), separating the common circuit board (channel formed) after the connecting step, and titling step (Fig. 10).

Wang fails to disclose fastening at least one electrically conductive pre-formed wire; scoring the circuit board; holding the separated substrates in fixed position; connecting a pre-insulated wire; using a holding fixture; holding one of the separated substrates in proximity to one frame member and another one of the separated substrates held in proximity to a second frame member.

Latasiewicz discloses fastening at least one electrically conductive pre-formed wire (30);scoring the common substrate; holding the separated substrates in fixed position; connecting a pre-insulated wire; using a holding fixture; holding one of the separated substrates in proximity to one frame member and another one of the separated substrates held in proximity to a second frame member (Figs. 1-3) thereby forming a display monitor.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Wang by fastening at least one electrically conductive pre-formed wire; scoring the common substrate; holding the separated substrates in fixed position; connecting a pre-insulated wire; using a holding fixture; holding one of the separated substrates in proximity

to one frame member and another one of the separated substrates held in proximity to a second frame member, as taught by Latasiewicz, for the purpose of forming a display monitor.

Re claim 18: Wang fails to disclose forming a groove at an angle less than 60 degrees.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to form a groove at an angle less than 60 degrees because Applicant has not disclosed that forming a groove at an angle less than 60 degrees provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with forming a groove at an angle 90 degrees because it would perform the same function of easily severing the boards from each other.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Wang to obtain the invention as specified in claim 18.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al (US 5,419,038)/Latasiewicz (US 4,316,235) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Degani et al (US 6,370,766).

Wang/Latasiewicz fail to disclose testing prior to separating.

Degani discloses testing prior to separating (burn-in testing) thereby insuring that the printed circuit is properly functioning under stress.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Wang/Latasiewicz by testing by making at least one connection that is external, as taught by Degani, for the purpose of insuring that the printed circuit is properly functioning under stress.

7. Claims 8-9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al (US 5,419,038)/Latasiewicz (US 4,316,235) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Official Notice.

Wang/Latasiewicz fails to disclose pressing or cutting by using an edged tool.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to press or cut by using an edged tool, such as a router, to cleanly separate a plurality of circuit boards from each other.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Wang/Latasiewicz by pressing or cutting by using an edged tool, as taught by Official Notice, for the purpose of cleanly separating a plurality of circuit boards from each other.

8. Claims 17 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al (US 5,419,038)/Latasiewicz (US 4,316,235) as applied to claims 1, 3 and 15 above, and further in view of Feeney (US 3,780,430).

Wang/Latasiewicz fail to disclose housing a circuit board against a sidewall, inserting process and a soldering process.

Feeney discloses housing a circuit board against a sidewall (Fig. 1), inserting process (58 is inserted in a throughhole formed in 14) and a soldering process (56) thereby protecting the board against the environment and mechanically and electrically fastening wires.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Wang/Latasiewicz by housing a circuit board against a sidewall, inserting process and a soldering process, as taught by Feeney, for the purpose of protecting the board against the environment and mechanically and electrically fastening wires.

9. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al (US 5,419,038)/Latasiewicz (US 4,316,235) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of Degani et al (US 6,370,766).

Wang/Latasiewicz fail to disclose making at least one connection that is external.

Degani discloses making at least one connection that is external (burn-in testing) thereby insuring that the printed circuit is properly functioning under stress.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Wang/Latasiewicz by testing by making at least one connection that is external, as taught by Degani, for the purpose of insuring that the printed circuit is properly functioning under stress.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims noted above have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicants' concerns are addressed above.

Conclusion

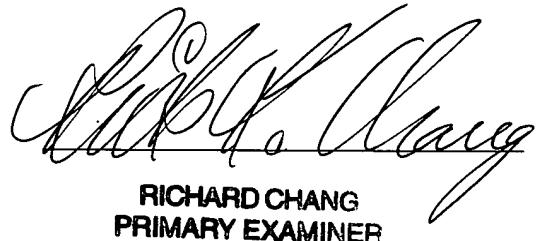
11. Please provide reference numerals to all the claimed limitations as well as support in the disclosure for better clarity. Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

Art Unit: 3729

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Friday, except for maxi-flex day off (any one of working days).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.



RICHARD CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

RC
May 20, 2003